Coal Production during Eighth Plan

756. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total coal production during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the target set for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) the achievement made so far;

(d) the production made for the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the company and coal field wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Total coal production during 7th Five Year Plan 1985-86 to 1989-90 was 895.22 MT. The production by terminal year of 7th Plan 1989-90 was 200.29 MT.

(b) The coal production target as recommended by Planning Commission by terminal year of 8th Plan is 308 MT.

(c) During year 1992-93 and 1993-94, All India Coal production was 238.26 MT and 245.04 MT respectively.

(d) and (e) No firm projections are as yet available for Ninth Five Year Plan. The exercise for formulation of Ninth Plan targets has not yet been taken up.

Import of edible oil under O. G. L.

757. SHRI SANJAYA DALMIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government have decided to import edible Oils under O.G.L.

(b) If so what are the details thereof; and

(c) What was the production of Palmolien, Mustard Oil and Sunflower Oil and demand thereof during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Under the current Export and Import Policy, 1992-97, import of edible oils continue to be canalised through STC & Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Ltd. However, import of edible vegetable palmolein oil is permitted freely by all persons.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Ash percentage in non-coking coal

758. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-coking coal containing above 35 percent was being treated as non-vendable coal:

(b) if so, what was the scientific reason for declaration of coal containing 55 pecent ash as vendable coal by increasing the limit of ash content from 35 percent of 55 percent; and

(c) which are the other countries of the World where coal containing ash upto 55 percent is being produced and utilised on large scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The erstwhile Coal Board had been grading coals of ash content upto 35 percent and coals beyond this range of ash were considered to be non-vendible.

In the present grading system coals with ash and moisture content upto 55 per cent have been considered as vendible. The conservation of valuable natural energy resources like

coal was the main consideration taken into account in the present grading system. The consumption profile of coal has undergone vast changes over the last two decades. Earlier, the design of combustion equipment was such that only coals with high heat value could be utilised. With the emergence of Pulverised Firing of coal particularly in the thermal power station boilers it has become possible to utilise coals with high ash content with high thermal efficiency. The modern coal combustion equipment particularly the power station boilers can handle coals with high ash content without any serious problem. The environmental pollution mainly arises from the 'fly ash' produced when the coal is burnt. This problem can be considerably reduced by using beneficiated coal.

(c) High ash content coals as well as washery rejects are reported to be utilised in fluidised bed combustion boilers for power generation in countries like France, Germany, USA etc.

Grading or pricing of coal

759. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 296 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th December, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by BICP have been examined and due action taken thereon;

(b) what are the details of the action taken on the recommendations;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) what are the details regarding Members of this Committee;

(e) whether a retired C and M D of a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. serving or a retired Director (Finance) or any other official of Coal India were members of the said Committee; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) The interim recommendations of Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices (BICP) regarding coal industry have been examined in the Ministry. Since most of the recommendations relate to coal prices, which is a sensitive issue, the changes if any can be made public only by issue of Gazette Notifications.

(d) to (f) According to BICP, they had not appointed any committee for conducting their study on coal industry. However, they did engage Shri C. S. Jha Ex-Chairman, Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and M/s. Alpha Consultants represented by Shri B. Swaminathan Ex-Director (Finance), Coal India Ltd. as consultants to work for specific assignments connected with their report. In addition, assistance of some officers of Coal India Ltd. was also taken for collection and analysing various technical and costing details for the study.

कोयला खान भविष्य निधि संगठन का कार्य निष्पादन

760. **मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी :** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोयला खान भविष्य निधि और विविध प्रावधान अधिनियम, 1948 का प्रशासन और कोयला खान भविष्य निधि संगठन का कार्यान्वयन और निष्पादन कार्य संतोषजनक ढंग से नहीं हो रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;